

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1, 4, 7, 8 and 10-25, amend claims 26 and 27, and add new claims 28-35 as set forth in the complete claim listing below. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1-25 (Cancelled).

26.(Currently Amended) A method of treating a tumor comprising malignant cancer cells having an operative ~~protein~~ retinoblastoma (RB) protein, by dephosphorylizing the RB protein in said cancer cells and maintaining a dephosphorylated state of the RB in said cancer cells to induce apoptosis thereof; ~~having malignant cells, in a subject,~~ comprising the steps of:

administering to said a subject a composition comprising a pharmaceutically effective dosage of an agent that causes to cause a decrease in the $[GSH]^2/[GSSG]$ (wherein [GSH] is the concentration of glutathione and [GSSG] is the concentration of glutathione disulfide) ratio in the malignant cancer cells of said tumor, said agent comprising any one or a combination from the group of disulfram, curcumin, BCNU and BSO;

said pharmaceutically effective dosage of said agent being calibrated to continuously maintain the amounts of said composition and the mode of said administration being such that a said decreased $[GSH]^2/[GSSG]$ ratio is reached and maintained in the malignant cells and consequently continuously maintain said dephosphorylated state of the RB in said cancer cells continuously within a range of from ~~for about~~ 15 to ~~about~~ 75 hours in order to span at least one cell cycle.

27. (Currently Amended). A method in accordance with claim 26, wherein said ~~administering step~~ agent comprises ~~administering~~ a synergistic combination of at least two from among the group of disulfram, curcumin, BCNU and BSO agents, ~~which combination causes a decrease in the $[GSH]^2/[GSSG]$ ratio in the malignant~~

~~cells of said tumor, wherein said agents are selected from the classes consisting of:~~

~~(i) an agent that causes oxidation of GSH;~~

~~(ii) an agent that causes formation of an adduct or a conjugate with GSH;~~

~~(iii) an agent that causes inhibition of the GCS (7-glutamylcystein synthetase) enzyme;~~

~~and~~

~~(iv) an agent that causes inhibition of the glutathione reductase (GR) enzyme.~~

28. (New). A method in accordance with claim 26, wherein said agent includes disulfiram.

29. (New). A method in accordance with claim 28, wherein said disulfiram oxidizes GSH to GSSG.

30. (New). A method in accordance with claim 26, wherein said agent includes curcumin.

31. (New). A method in accordance with claim 30, wherein said curcumin forms an adduct with GSH and decreases GSH.

32. (New). A method in accordance with claim 26, wherein said agent includes BCNU.

33. (New). A method in accordance with claim 32, wherein said BCNU inhibits a GR enzyme, inhibiting conversion of GSSG to GSH.

34. (New). A method in accordance with claim 26, wherein said agent comprises BSO.

35. (New). A method in accordance with claim 34, wherein said BSO inhibits a gamma-GCS enzyme, inhibiting synthesis of GSH.